Reply to Official Action of December 14, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application, as evidenced by the first Official Action. The first Official Action rejects Claims 1, 3-11, 13-20 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,570,909 to Kansakoski et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,067,292 to Huang et al. The Official Action then rejects the remaining claims, namely Claims 2 and 12, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kansakoski in view of Huang, and further in view of alleged Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) from the specification of the present application.

In response, Applicants have amended various ones of the claims to more clearly define the claimed invention. In addition, Applicants have added new Claim 25-20 to recite further patentable aspects of the present invention. Applicants have not, however, amended any of the claims in view of the rejections of the claims as being unpatentable over Kansakoski, Huang and the alleged AAPA, taken individually or in any proper combination. As explained below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentably distinct from Kansakoski, Huang and the alleged AAPA, taken individually or in any proper combination; and accordingly traverse the rejections of the claims as being unpatentable over Kansakoski in view of Huang, alone or further in view of the alleged AAPA. In view of the amended and newly added claims, and the remarks presented herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

A. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-20 and 21-24 are Patentable

According to one aspect of the claimed invention, as reflected in amended independent Claim 1, a method is provided for reducing interference within a local channel signal received during operation of a mobile station in an idle state and/or an access state. As recited, the method includes selecting one or more interfering pilot channel signals that have a signal strength above a threshold, where the selected at least one interfering pilot channel signal constitutes an interfering set of pilot channel signals. The method also includes producing a corrected local channel signal based upon the interfering set of pilot channel signals during the idle state and/or the access state.

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Similar to the claimed invention, both Kansakoski and Huang relate to interference cancellation. Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentably distinct from Kansakoski and Huang (and the alleged AAPA), taken individually or in any proper combination. In this regard, Applicants note that the Official Action alleges that Kansakoski discloses continuous transmission of a pilot signal, and from this, concludes that Kansakoski discloses the claimed interference cancellation during the idle state and/or access state. To the contrary, however, the fact that a pilot transmission signal is continuously transmitted does not, by itself, support the conclusion that Kansakoski discloses interference cancellation in the idle state and/or access state, particularly since it may be just as likely that Kansakoski's system instead performs its interference cancellation in the traffic state. Kansakoski is just simply silent as to any particular states within which it performs interference cancellation.

Applicants again respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 1, and by dependency Claims 2-10, 25 and 26, is patentably distinct from Kansakoski and Huang, taken individually or in any proper combination. Amended independent Claims 11 and 21 recite subject matter similar to that of amended independent Claim 1, including the aforementioned interference cancellation in the idle state and/or access state. Thus, Applicants also respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 11 and 21, and by dependency Claims 12-20, 22-24 and 27-30, are also patentably distinct from Kansakoski and Huang, taken individually or in any proper combination, for at least the reasons given above with respect to amended independent Claim 1

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 1, 3-11, 13-20 and 21-24 as being unpatentable over Kansakoski, in view of Huang, is overcome.

B. Claims 2 and 12 are Patentable

The Official Action rejects Claims 2 and 12, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kansakoski in view of Huang, and further in view of alleged Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) from the specification of the present application. As indicated

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above, the first Official Action rejects Claims 2 and 12 as being unpatentable over Kansakoski in view of Huang, and further in view of alleged AAPA. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the alleged AAPA does not cure the defects of Kansakoski in view of Huang. That is, even considering the alleged AAPA, Applicants maintain that none of Kansakoski, Huang or the alleged AAPA, taken individually or in any proper combination, teach or suggest any of independent Claims 1, 11 and 21. And as such, Applicants also respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 11 and 21, and by dependency Claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30, are patentably distinct from Kansakoski in view of Huang, and further in view of alleged AAPA.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 2 and 12 as being unpatentable over Kansakoski in view of Huang, and further in view of alleged AAPA, is overcome.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the amended and newly added claims and the remarks presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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